

Melanie is one of Jackson's most respected and honored television journalists. This year, she was voted "Newsperson of the Year" by the Mississippi Associated Press, the first female journalist to earn this distinction. Her work has also won awards from the National Commission on Working Women, the Mississippi Association of Broadcasters, and the Associated Press. She has served as emcee of numerous fund raising events on WJTV over the years, including the Children's Miracle Network telecast to benefit Batson Hospital for Children in Jackson.

In recent years, Melanie has been the face of health and medical reporting for WJTV as she informed viewers about the latest treatments, drugs, and how to improve their health.

Melanie serves on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan YMCA and MORA, the Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency. She also works with the March of Dimes, the Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children. She is also a board member of Ballet Mississippi and hosts "The Learning Exchange" four times a year on Mississippi ETV.

Mr. Speaker, Melanie Christopher has long been a reliable, trustworthy source of news and information for Mississippians, and her dedication to the community has earned her well deserved honor. She has served in her role as journalist and kept the public trust in that institution. We will miss tuning in to see and hear her on WJTV, but I'm convinced she will continue to benefit her community and all of Mississippi for many years to come.

HONORING MR. WILLIAM
BENEDETTO

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. William Benedetto, who was recently the first Oregonian to be awarded the 2006 U.S. Maritime Literature Award for his book *Sailing Into the Abyss*.

Mr. Benedetto's service to this country began when he enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard after finishing high school in Maine in 1946. During his time with the Coast Guard, Mr. Benedetto served on every coast in the areas of search and rescue, port security and with the U.S. Merchant Marine. He was commended by the Coast Guard for performing rescue operations when Hurricane Betsy hit New Orleans in 1965.

Mr. Benedetto retired from the Coast Guard in 1974 after moving to Oregon and beginning his college career. He graduated from Portland State University in 1977 and from the University of Oregon Law School in 1980. After practicing law for 20 years, Mr. Benedetto retired and completed his longtime goal of writing a book. *Sailing Into the Abyss* was published in 2005 and was awarded the 2006 U.S. Maritime Literature Award in June of this year.

I believe I speak for the great State of Oregon when I say we are proud to call Mr. Benedetto a writer, a serviceman, and an honorable citizen of our State and country.

Congratulations Mr. Benedetto.

RECOGNIZING THEODORE JOSEPH
FETTERLING FOR ACHIEVING
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Theodore Fetterling, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Theodore has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Theodore has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. It is with extreme pleasure that I commend the dedication Theodore has shown.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Theodore for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am proud to represent Theodore in the United States House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF OFFICER JOHN
GREEN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer John Green of the Santa Cruz Police Department. During his tenure, Officer Green served in the Patrol Section as a Patrol Officer and Field Training Officer as a Detective in the Investigation Section and with the Santa Cruz County Narcotics Enforcement Team. He is a man of honor and will be greatly missed.

Officer Green was born in Long Island, New York and grew up in Queens, New York to a family of two sisters and one brother. He enlisted in the Navy in 1975 and was stationed in Jamaica, New York. He was an Aviation Machinist Mate First Class. He later transferred to Moffett Field, California and remained there until his discharge in 1981.

Upon discharge, John worked as a Maintenance Technician for a large corporation in Santa Clara, California before beginning a career in law enforcement when on February 3, 1986, Officer Green was sworn in as a Police Patrol Officer. In 1984, John was hired as a Deputy Sheriff with the Alameda County Sheriff's Department where he worked in the detention facility for 2 years before being hired by the Santa Cruz Police Department in 1986.

John attended several U.S. Navy Aircraft Mechanics schools, studied at Mission College in Santa Clara, California and graduated from the Alameda County Sheriff's Department Police Academy.

John's dedication to the community first began with his service to the United States, but it did not stop there. His desire to become a police officer revolved around his desire to serve the community and its citizens through

law enforcement. He enjoys interacting and working with members of the community and strives to help keep our community safer. Community members describe him as professional, poised, kind, thorough, and having a positive attitude. One person even stated, "His compassion for people, kindness . . . open and friendly attitude puts everyone at ease." Officer Green is a man of integrity and respect.

John has been married for 13 years to his wife Sharon. They have three children; Brandon, 12; Melissa, 20 and Lori, 31. In John's spare time he likes to fish, travel and spend time with friends and family. His retirement plans include more fishing, traveling, and time with friends and family, plus working part time and engaging in volunteer work of some sort.

Mr. Speaker, for all of these reasons it is with great joy that I acknowledge Officer John Green of the Santa Cruz Police Department for 20 years of service to the community.

HONORING JON BUTLER

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jon Butler, a constituent from Pennington, and recognize his great achievements. Mr. Butler has recently received the 2006 Hershey's STRIVE award, National Administrator of the Year from the National Council of Youth Sports.

Mr. Butler has been chosen for this award because he has been a guiding force in his community. He has worked closely with Pop Warner Little Scholars, the largest youth football, cheerleading, and dance program in the United States. Mr. Butler has worked to facilitate children's participation in group sports and activities. These activities engage children in a safe environment and help to teach essential skills and knowledge. Jon now has begun educating Capitol Hill about the value of Pop Warner Little Scholars.

Mr. Butler sets high standards for children and always encourages them to perform at their highest level. Mr. Butler has developed a Coaches Education Training Program to educate adults on the basic fundamentals of youth sports, including sportsmanship, coaching techniques, and respect for youth.

STRIVE, which stands for Sports Teach Respect, Initiative, Values, and Excellence, honors adult leaders who have a passion for helping children, and I am proud to recognize Mr. Jon Butler for receiving this award.

TRIBUTE TO FIRST LIEUTENANT
JOSHUA DEESE

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true gentleman, wonderful father, and a leader in the Armed Forces, First Lieutenant Joshua Deese, who passed away while on patrol near Kirkuk, Iraq when his vehicle was hit by a roadside bomb on October